

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A two part clip construction comprising, in combination:

a first U-shaped clip member including first and second spaced legs joined at one end by a connecting crown, each leg having an opposite free end with an inside, said insides of said free ends of said legs spaced a first distance, said first clip member formed from a deformable, plastic material, whereby the first clip member may be strained to form a generally closed loop shape having the legs arranged in an overlapping array with the leg ends extending in generally opposite directions; and

a leg retention member for engaging the legs, said retention member comprising a block with first and second, spaced opposed sides and with a through passage between the opposed sides, said through passage defining openings on the opposite sides of the retention member, said openings spaced a second distance no greater than the first distance, said through passage sized and shaped to accommodate movement of the leg ends there through upon positioning the first and second free leg ends into openings respectively on opposed sides of the retention member and plastically deforming the first and second legs in overlapping array to thereby retain material gathered between the legs.

2. The construction of claim 1 wherein at least one of the members is a polymeric material.

3. A method for retaining gathered material comprising the steps of applying a two member clip construction to the gathered material, said clip construction comprising:

a first U-shaped clip member including first and second spaced legs joined at one end by a connecting crown, each leg having an opposite free end with an inside, said insides of said free ends of said legs spaced a first distance, said first clip member formed from a deformable, plastic material, whereby the first clip member may be strained to form a generally closed loop shape having the legs arranged in an overlapping array with the leg ends extending in generally opposite directions; and

a leg retention member for engaging the legs, said retention member comprising a block with first and second, spaced opposed sides and with a through passage between the opposed sides, said through passage defining openings on the opposite sides of the retention member, said openings spaced a second distance no greater than the first distance, said through passage sized and shaped to accommodate movement of the leg ends therethrough upon positioning the first and second free leg ends into openings respectively on opposed sides of the retention member and plastically deforming the first and second legs in overlapping array to thereby retain material gathered between the legs by positioning the gathered material between the first and second leg members of the clip member;

positioning the retention member in alignment with the clip member by orienting the retention member with the openings aligned for receipt of the leg members;

directing the first and second leg members respectively into opposed side openings of the retention member; and

plastically deforming the leg members to encircle the gathered material.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the clip member is driven to engage a static retention member.

5. The method of claim 3 including a preliminary step of feeding and gathering material in alignment with a clip member and retention member.